

Air Tour Management Plans



National Parks Air Tour Management Act of 2000 (NPATMA)

Objective: “To develop acceptable and effective measures to mitigate or prevent the significant adverse impacts, if any, of commercial air tour operations upon the natural and cultural resources, visitor experiences, and tribal lands.”

Air Tour Management Plans (ATMPs) apply to air tours:

- Over a national park or any area within ½ mile of park boundary
- Over tribal lands within or abutting a national park
- 5,000 feet altitude or less above ground level



The **Federal Aviation Administration** is the lead agency developing ATMPs in cooperation with the **National Park Service**

ATMP Development Process

We are at this step

Scoping

- Issues identified
- Public and agency input requested

Alternatives Development

- Alternatives identified for evaluation
- Public and agency input requested

Draft Environmental Assessment & Draft ATMP

- Evaluates impacts to environmental and community resources
- Public and agency input requested

Final Environmental Assessment & Final ATMP

- Preferred Alternative identified, including flight routes and operating parameters

Record of Decision

- Documents Selected Alternative

FAA Rulemaking

- Establishes enforceable rules
- Public and agency input requested

Flights Currently Allowed at Golden Gate National Recreation Area, San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park, and Point Reyes National Seashore

Operators with IOA	Flights per Year		
	GGNRA	SF Maritime	The Seashore
San Francisco Helicopter Tours	2,900	2,900	2,900
San Francisco Sea Plane Tours	2,190	2,190	2,190

What is Interim Operating Authority (IOA)?

- The maximum number of authorized air tours per year
- Authorizes operations until 180 days after ATMP is established
- Based on tour operators' records of the number of air tours annually before NPATMA

